GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1424
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
AREA UNDER FOODGRAIN
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)â€"Handbook of statistics, the area under foodgrain has declined;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the production of cereals and coarse grains in view of sharp decline in area under such crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): No, Sir. As per the latest edition of Reserve Bank of India `Handbook of Statistics on the Indian Economy, 2006-07`, the area under foodgrains during 2006-07 (Advance Estimates as on April 4, 2007) is 124.07 million hectares which is higher than the area under foodgrains during 2004-05 and 2005-06.

(b): Does not arise.

(c)&(d): To increase the production of rice, wheat and coarse cereals in the country, the integrated Cereals Development Programmes (ICDP) in rice, wheat and coarse cereals based cropping systems have been under implementation since October 2000. In order to further increase the production of rice and wheat, the Government has launched National Food Security Mission (NFSM) from Rabi 2007-08. The NFSM aims at increasing the production of rice by 10 million tonnes and wheat by 8 million tonnes in the targeted districts of the country by the end of the 11th Plan i.e. 2011-2012.